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**Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board**

July 27, 2018

Mr. Tomás Torres, Director  
Water Division (WTR-1)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

[Torres.Tomas@epa.gov](mailto:Torres.Tomas@epa.gov)

REQUEST FOR U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (U.S. EPA)  
APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR  
THE SANTA ANA RIVER BASIN (BASIN PLAN): REVISION TO THE COMPLIANCE  
SCHEDULE FOR THE FECAL COLIFORM TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL)  
FOR SHELLFISH HARVESTING (SHEL) IN NEWPORT BAY, AND OTHER REVISION  
AND EDITORIAL CHANGES

Dear Mr. Torres:

Pursuant to federal Clean Water Act (CWA) sections 303 (c) and 303 (d) (2), we are submitting amendments to the Basin Plan for U.S. EPA's approval. We request the U.S. EPA approve the TMDL amendment under CWA section 303 (d) (2). This amendment revises the compliance schedule for the Fecal Coliform TMDL for SHEL in Newport Bay to extend the deadline to December 31, 2022 to implement measures to meet the SHEL objective.

We also request the U.S. EPA approve the water quality standards amendments to the Basin Plan under CWA section 303 (c). These amendments revise the SHEL beneficial use definition to make the definition consistent with the other coastal waterboards; add antidegradation targets for waters with the non-contact water recreation (REC2) beneficial use; add surface water bodies to Tables 3-1 and 4-1 and designate beneficial uses for those and other waters; and make other editorial changes (specifically, create a new Chapter 6 with an introductory narrative in the Basin Plan to include all TMDLs, revise subsequent chapter numbering, and add footnotes to Chapters 4 and 5 explaining the different units that are used for expressing concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria).

The Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Santa Ana Water Board) approved the amendments on June 16, 2017 (Resolution No. R8-2017-0019). The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) approved the amendments on February 6, 2018 under Resolution No. 2018-0007.

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WILLIAM RUH, CHAIR | HOPE A. SMYTHE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Documentation pertaining to these amendments is being sent separately to U.S. EPA staff, Daniel Oros, for review. This documentation includes portions of the Santa Ana Water Board and State Water Board administrative records on this matter.

In accordance with established procedure, we are submitting these amendments concurrently to the U.S. EPA and the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). OAL's approval letter will be transmitted upon receipt.

We look forward to U.S. EPA approval of these Basin Plan amendments. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact David Woelfel, Senior Environmental Scientist, at 951-782-7960 or [David.Woelfel@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:David.Woelfel@waterboards.ca.gov) or Claudia Tenorio at 951-782-4963 or [Claudia.Tenorio@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Claudia.Tenorio@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Hope A. Smythe  
Executive Officer  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

Enclosure: Complete Administrative Record CD

cc: Mr. Daniel Oros (with amendment documentation)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Ms. Janet Hashimoto (without amendment documentation)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105